

REMARKS

Claims 13-24, 36-65, 67-69 85, and 92 have been allowed. Applicants request that both the documents present in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be considered and the priority document be entered as record as outlined below.

I. Priority Claim

Applicants note that the Examiner did not acknowledge the claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 and receipt of the priority documents from the IB. Attached herewith is a copy of the Form PCT/IB304 indicating the transmittal of the certified priority documents to the IB, Form PTO/SB/38 requesting retrieval of the document, as well as a copy of the priority document on file with WIPO.

II. Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note that Reference Nos. 2-3 listed on the Form PTO-1449 submitted on August 1, 2006 were not considered. Applicants apologize for the inconvenience caused by the failure to provide copies of the references and not having checked the appropriate box on the previous IDS. The English versions of the foreign patent references are attached herewith, along with the appropriate statement and fee and a new Form PTO-1449. Applicants request that the Examiner consider the references and return a fully-initialed copy of the Form PTO-1449 with the next communication.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request the supplied documents be considered and the issuance of a Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned, who can be reached at (919) 483-9995.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 11, 2010
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